

DIVERSITY CAFE



THIS MONTH'S SPECIALS

Filipino American History Month

Filipino American History Month

October is Filipino American History Month, also known as Filipino American Heritage Month. The first Filipinos to set foot in North America arrived in the Morro Bay area or what is now known as San Luis Obispo, California. The first permanent Filipino settlement in North America was established in 1763 in Saint Malo, Louisiana. Filipino Americans have made substantial contributions to American society in the arts, sciences, music, and literature.

More than 250,000 brave and courageous Filipinos fought under the United States flag during World War II to protect and defend this country. At Public Works, we are proud of our Filipino employees and honor their heritage and culture every year.

National Disability Employment Awareness Month

In October, Americans observe National Disability Employment Awareness Month by paying tribute to the accomplishments of the men and women with disabilities whose work helps keep the nation's economy strong and by reaffirming their commitment to ensure equal opportunity for all citizens.

This year's theme, "Because We Are EQUAL to the Task," reflects the reality that people with disabilities have the education, training, experience, and desire to be successful in the workplace.

It takes everyone's willingness and efforts to promote an atmosphere where individuals are comfortable discussing and exploring questions about accessibility, equality, and inclusion for people with disabilities. The most important thing to remember is that, at work, it is what people *can* do that matters.

Diversity Calendar

- **October 10, 2013** – Filipino American Public Works Employees Association members will celebrate Filipino American History Month in Headquarters Conference Rooms A-C. For more information, please contact Eric Baul at (626) 458-4314.
- **October 16, 2013**, at 7 p.m. and **October 18, 2013**, at 6 p.m. – The documentary "Little Manila: Filipinos in California's Heartland" will air on public television station KVIE. For more information, visit <http://www.kvie.org/programs>.
- **October 26, 2013** – The Exposition of the Global Filipino at the Orange County Fair and Event Center. For tickets call (818) 549-9005.
- **November 5, 2013**, – Public Works South East Asian Cultural Committee will celebrate Diwali, Festival of Lights, from 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. in Headquarter's Conference Rooms A-C. For more information, please contact Yogen Bhagat at (626) 458-3918.

Café News

- DPW Iranian American Employees' Committee held a special luncheon to honor members who served on last year's committee and to select new committee members for next year's celebration.
- The Public Works Armenian Employees group is preparing for its annual heritage celebration next year. For more information, contact Robert Hartoonian at (626) 458-3332 or Armine Kesablyan at (626) 458-3548.

Test Your Knowledge: (True or False)

1. 68.4 percent of Filipino Americans speak a language other than English in the household. (T) or (F)
2. The Philippines is the world's third largest English-speaking nation, next to the United States and United Kingdom. (T) or (F)

(Answers below)

Café Quote of the Month

"The strength of the nation lies in the well-being of the common man."

- Diosdado Macapagal, The president of The Philippines 1961-1965



By Flora Wieggers, Public Works
Diversity Manager, (626) 458-5193